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## CENTRAL HUNGARY: MAGYARS AND GERMANS\*

By B. C. WALLIS

[With three separate maps, Pls. XVIII-XX, facing p. 432.]

Central Hungary stretches from the Austrian border eastwards to the foothills of the Bihar massif; it is almost equally divided by the long north and south reach of the river Danube. The western portion, here called German Magyaria (see Fig. 2), is a country of lowlands and low, well-wooded hills. These moderate heights are the outliers of the Eastern Alps, and the main chain stretches from Lake Balaton, the largest sheet of fresh water in Europe, to the great bend of the Danube at Vácz (Pl. XVIII). German Magyaria is bounded by rivers on three sides, the Danube on the north and east and the Drave on the south. In the northeast corner German Magyaria is kept away from the Danube by the county of Pest-Pilis-Solt-Kiskun, which contains Budapest and forms part of Magyaria. In the southeast corner the western area is kept away from the confluence of the Drave and Danube by South-Slav Hungary. The eastern portion, here called Magyaria, consists of the major portion of the Hungarian plain, the Alföld. It includes the greater part of Cumania, the district between the Danube and the Tisza, and extends northeast to the great bend of the Tisza near Nyír; in the south the boundary passes through the confluence of the Maros with the Tisza and the confluence of the White with the Black Körös.

German Magyaria lies east of German Austria between Slovak and Croat lands. Magyaria marches with Ruthenian Slovakia, Ruthenia, the Rumanian Forelands, and South-Slav-Hungary, so that its inhabitants, the Magyars, have as neighbors Germans, Slovaks, Ruthenians, Rumanians, and Serbs. In no place does the boundary of Magyaria coincide with the boundary of Hungary.

Central Hungary covers 31,000 square miles and contains nearly 7,000,000 people, i. e. a quarter of the country contains a third of the population. There are no extensive areas of mountainous country without houses and villages; the chief hindrances to settlement are the inundation areas of the rivers, and these are gradually being reclaimed, so that the density of the population is above the average for Hungary.

### POPULATION

Central Hungary has a population equal in number to that of New England but crowded into half the New England area; it has both a third

\* This is the last of a series of four articles. The previous articles were entitled "The Rumanians in Hungary," "The Slavs of Northern Hungary," "The Slavs of Southern Hungary" and appeared respectively in the August, September, and October *Reviews*. An explanatory note on the maps accompanies the first article.—EDIT. NOTE.

of the area and a third of the population of the three states of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. Budapest, the Hungarian capital, is in the northwest of Magyaria; it has 880,000 inhabitants (cf. Boston, Mass., with 756,000 inhabitants; Philadelphia with 1,700,000). In the city there are 200,000 Jews, most of whom are officially included among the 756,000 Magyars claimed officially as the number of members of the dominant race in Budapest. The Germans number 79,000 and the Slovaks about 20,000. Recent travelers carry away with them the impression that the capital is a Jewish city, since the Magyar notables, with their passion for country life, leave the Jews to make the greatest show in the social life of the city. The Slovaks are the laboring element; their women are famous foster-mothers. Magyaria also contains the second city in Hungary in point of population, Szeged, with 118,000 people and a municipal area of 204,000 acres (cf. New Bedford, Mass., with 118,000 people and 12,000 acres). There are four other municipalities in Magyaria: Debreczen, the fourth city in Hungary (with 93,000 people and 239,000 acres; cf. Oklahoma City with 93,000 people and 11,000 acres), Kecskemét (66,000), Hodmező-Vásárhely (62,000), and Miskolc (51,000). In German Magyaria there are four municipalities: Györ (44,000), Székesfehérvár (37,000), Sopron (34,000), and Komárom (22,000).

#### THE PEOPLE OF CENTRAL HUNGARY

German Magyaria contains 2,750,000, and Magyaria just over 4,000,000 inhabitants. The average rate of natural increase of the population per annum is the same in the two areas; the total net emigration during the decade 1900-1910 was practically the same, 70,000, for the two districts, but by internal migration German Magyaria lost people equal to a third of the natural increase, while Magyaria gained people at a slightly faster rate (Table I). All these changes occurred at a slightly higher rate than the

TABLE I—POPULATION CHANGES IN CENTRAL HUNGARY, 1900-1910  
(Population in thousands)

	TOTAL POPULATION		NET INCREASE (b)-(a)	EXCESS OF BIRTHS OVER DEATHS (d)	CHANGE (c)-(d) (e)	ESTIMATED NET EMIGRATION (f)	MIGRATION WITHIN AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (g)
	1900	1910					
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
<i>German Magyaria</i>							
Thousands .....	2,589	2,732	143	316	-173	-70	-103
Per cent .....	...	...	5	12	7	3	4
<i>Magyaria</i>							
Thousands .....	3,566	4,120	554	452	102	-69	171
Per cent .....	...	...	15	12	3	2	5

corresponding changes in the Rumanian Forelands except in the case of emigration, which was slower than from any other part of Hungary. The internal migration indicates a larger shifting of the population than occurs

elsewhere and is largely accounted for by the rapid rise, which was in fact exceptional for Hungary, in the number of people in Budapest and its immediate surroundings.

The steady and continuous rise in the numbers of Magyars in both districts is shown in Figure 1. The Magyars in the western district have

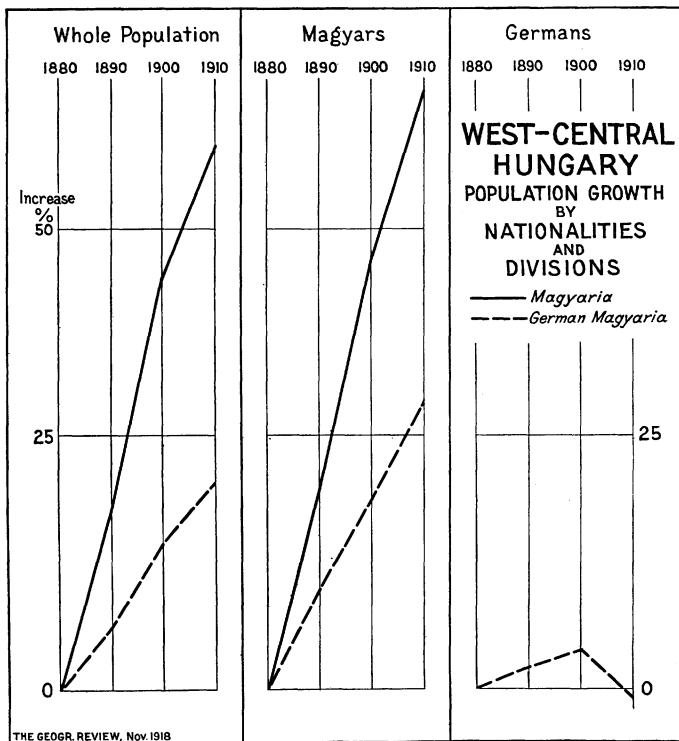


FIG. 1—Diagram showing, by nationalities and divisions, the population growth in central Hungary from 1880 to 1910.

In this, as well as the corresponding diagrams in the previous articles (Figs. 1 and 2, pp. 158 and 161; Fig. 1, p. 271; Fig. 1, p. 344), the vertical scale is not arithmetic, but logarithmic. The intervals 0-25, 0-50, etc., have been made proportional respectively to the logarithms of 1.25, 1.50, etc. The slopes of the population growth lines thus directly indicate the rate of increase.

increased in numbers about as quickly as the average increase for the total population of Hungary proper (Fig. 1, p. 158, first article), while those in the eastern district have increased more rapidly than any other element of the Hungarian peoples with the single exception of the Magyars in northern Hungary (Fig. 1, p. 271, second article). By contrast the Germans in German Magyaria have practically remained steady in numbers for thirty years; this indicates a distinct tendency for the Germans to leave Hungary. The decline of the Germans in Magyaria from 7 per cent of

the population in 1880 to 4 per cent in 1910 (Table II) is only exceeded by the decline of the Germans in Ruthenian Slovakia.

Two-thirds of the people in German Magyaria are Magyars, one-sixth are Germans, and the Jews form a small element of about 3 per cent. The remainder, about 10 per cent in all, are mainly the scattered Croats near the Austrian border and the Slovenes who have intruded from Austria into the lands just north of the Mur (Pl. XIX). In Magyaria the Jews have doubled their numbers in thirty years and form an important element in the population by reason of their commercial ability and their hold upon the life of Budapest. Most of the other people (5 per cent in number) are Slovaks; their chief island lies in the boundary zone between Magyars and Rumanians on the east of Magyaria (Pl. XIX, and Pl. IX, first article).

Table II in the second article (p. 270) and Table II below combine to indicate a fact of considerable moment. In Ruthenian Slovakia for every

TABLE II—NATIONALITIES IN CENTRAL HUNGARY, 1880 AND 1910

NATIONALITY	GERMAN MAGYARIA			MAGYARIA		
	1880	1910	INCREASE PER CENT	1880	1910	INCREASE PER CENT
Thousands.....	2,275	2,782	20	2,626	4,256	62
Density per square mile.	144	175	...	165	266	...
<b>MAGYARS</b>						
Thousands.....	1,481	1,905	28	2,038	3,518	72
Per cent.....	65	70	...	77	83	...
<b>GERMANS</b>						
Thousands.....	436	432	-1	188	155	-17
Per cent.....	19	16	...	7	4	...
<b>JEWS</b>						
Thousands .....	88	81	-8	172	350	104
Percentage.....	4	3	...	7	8	...

10 Magyars in 1880 there are 17 today, in Ruthenia for every 10 in 1880 there are 18 now; in Magyaria there has been practically an equivalent increase. In Ruthenia for every 10 Jews in 1880 there were 18 in 1910, and in Magyaria the increase has been even greater. The pressure of the Magyars and Jews is exerted strongly towards the northern limits of the Alföld; it has even extended into Transylvania, where the Magyars are increasing their hold on the country by their movement towards the central basin by way of the lower elevations in the northwest. The Germans are losing ground rapidly in the face of this pressure.

#### THE GERMANS IN GENERAL

In Hungary there have been consistently throughout three decades just under 2,000,000 Germans. With the exception of the Jews they are the most scattered of the non-Magyar peoples. They owe their position to the fact that the Austrian Empire of earlier years was governed in the interests of the Germans of central Austria. As the power of Austria was in process of eastward extension after the Turkish hordes had been definitely beaten back, Germans were sent to the limits of the empire as frontier guards, but more

often they were tempted as colonists of the wasted areas by a system of assisted emigration: they received grants of land, freedom from taxation, and assistance towards house building and the purchase of farm implements. During the latter half of the nineteenth century the Magyar has risen to power within the boundaries of Hungary, and both German influence and German population have declined. The trail of the gradual withdrawal of the German element is marked by the retention of German place names for villages without a single German inhabitant; under the recent passion for Magyarization many of these place names have disappeared from the official registers, though they are still locally used. The German settlers have always been a pattern to the other races in the arts of husbandry and in the conservatism which tends to maintain racial antagonisms. The Germans in the villages have preserved the purity of their race by a calculated disdain of the other peoples. The German controversialist, keen on elaborating a case for the German influence in Hungary, argues that some Germans have proved adaptable and become Magyars and that the Magyar official deliberately falsifies the census statistics to prove that the German element is declining in numbers. The weight of evidence is against these contentions. In recent years the Germans have migrated or emigrated in comparatively large numbers; their rate of natural increase is below the average for Slavs or Magyars; and a diligent search, village by village, through the records fails to reveal more than an occasional instance where it might reasonably be inferred that the census information has been falsified. Tenacious of his ancestral customs, better educated than his neighbors, a stolid industrious worker on the land, the German villager is not interested in questions of *Weltpolitik*; he has preserved and maintained an efficient educational and medical service, so that on the whole he has tended to be a definite race living in groups of villages ringed round with non-Germans whom he despises and at times dreads; hence the German fortress-churches. His losses are due in part to his scattered settlements and to recent economic progress; in recent years, when the German has emigrated from Hungary, he has usually gone not to the Fatherland, but to America.

#### THE JEWS IN GENERAL

The question of the decline in the number of the Germans is complicated by the fact that in the earlier years under review a very large proportion of the Jews in Hungary were German Jews, who have not maintained a steady adherence to the German language as their mother tongue. Wherever there arises an opportunity for financial dealings, either on a large scale as a mortgagee for the large estates of a gambling, spendthrift, Magyar noble or on a small scale as the host of the village inn and money-lender to the peasants, there a Jew will be found. It is said that the Jews are the biggest employers of labor, outside of agriculture, in Hungary. Consequently the Jew is found in the towns and larger villages. In a dis-

trict which has but a small Jewish population the greater number of them congregate in the particular town or village which is the center of local government. It follows, therefore, that the controversialist or the Pan-Nationalist who fails to separate the Jews from the Germans fails to discover the true state of affairs regarding the position of the German in Hungary.

It is demonstrable that those Jews who were originally German by mother tongue and who inhabit a district where Magyar schools predominate gradually become Magyar-speaking Jews, and it is equally certain that the process is carried a stage further when the Magyar-speaking Jew becomes no longer a Jew but a Magyar. A common opinion is that the Germans are adaptable and easily assimilated by the Magyar majority; this dictum is probably false regarding the German, but it is certainly true regarding the Jew.

It is estimated that the Jews in the world number 13,000,000; one million live in Hungary, where they form 5 per cent of the population and exert an influence which is out of all proportion to their numerical strength. The "subject races" are tillers of the ground, live in rural communities, and lack the leadership of a large and influential leisured, middle, or professional class; the Magyar disdains trade or industry; consequently, in all matters of trade, finance, and industry, i. e. in all those affairs which contribute most forcibly to modern progress, leadership has fallen to the Jews, who thrive and multiply. It is commonly asserted that the methods of the Jew are not above reproach, and it cannot be doubted that many Hungarian thinkers view with considerable apprehension the dominant position of the Jew in the Hungarian community.

#### THE MAGYARS IN GENERAL

Of the 10,000,000 Magyars in Hungary, roughly nine-tenths are peasants in little better economic situation than the "subject races." Condemned by the rigors of the climate to a long winter of comparative idleness, lacking the paternal care of a responsible land-owner who takes an interest in his tenantry and exerts himself to provide means of social improvement in the villages on the estate, the energetic Magyar peasant frequently emigrates to the New World, where he finds a social organization so superior to his own that not more than one in five of the emigrants is tempted to return to his native land. There is, however, one important difference between the state of the Magyar and that of the non-Magyar: whatever opportunity for improvement in life is meted out by the bureaucracy to the people, that opportunity is exclusively for the Magyars. The growth of the Magyar power has resulted in a tremendous multiplication of administrative officials; it is a Magyar plaint that the number is out of all proportion to the needs of the country; these posts are exclusively for Magyars. Consequently, the children of Magyar peasants find their way into the public

service and become part of the machine which is bent upon making Hungary the home of one people—none but official Magyars. Hence there has arisen an official and professional class which is the mainstay of Magyar chauvinism. There is not the slightest doubt that the Magyar noble is a cultured and pleasant gentleman; the individual Magyar is courteous, hospitable, and genial, with many of the best social characteristics of the traditional "cavalier"; but the Magyar machine is responsible for the neglect of subject peoples of small account, such as the Ruthenians, and the oppression of others of greater political influence, such as the Slovaks.

#### NATURAL INCREASE OF THE POPULATION

The German rate of natural increase in German Magyaria (Table III) is almost as great as the German rate in South-Slav Hungary (Table III,

TABLE III—VITAL STATISTICS, 1900-1910

NATIONALITY	RATES PER 10,000 PER ANNUM			INFANT MORTALITY PER CENT OF LIVING BIRTHS	ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS PER CENT OF TOTAL BIRTHS
	BIRTH	DEATH	NATURAL INCREASE		
<i>German Magyaria</i>					
Magyars .....	362	231	131	20	5
Germans .....	364	240	124	23	7
<i>Magyaria</i>					
Magyars .....	404	266	138	22	6

p. 346) and exceeds that of the Germans in Transylvania (Table V, p. 162). The Magyar rates of increase are higher than that of the Germans but fail to reach the level of the Magyar rates of increase in Ruthenia (Table III, p. 273) and the Rumanian Forelands (Table V, p. 162); it is noticeable that Magyar rates get gradually higher from west to east, to drop again farther east in Transylvania. Since the birth rates of central Hungary reach a high level the rate of infant mortality is also high; illegitimacy rates are proportionately low in the rural communities sampled to provide the results indicated in Table III. Vital conditions are less vigorous in German Magyaria than in Magyaria. This fact must bear some relation to the losses by emigration and internal migration from the western area.

#### MOVEMENTS OF THE PEOPLES

Emigrants left both areas in equal numbers, but the rate from the western district is 50 per cent higher than that from Magyaria. The Germans form 17 per cent of the population of German Magyaria and provided 34 per cent of the emigrants, very few of whom went to Germany.

The excessive emigration of Germans was a general feature from all the counties in which the German element is large (Fig. 2). It accounts for the shape of the German curve in the diagram showing rates of change

of the nationalities (Fig. 1). The net balance of internal migrations gave German Magyaria a loss of 100,000 people in a decade and Magyaria a

TABLE IV—ESTIMATED NET EMIGRATION, 1900-1910  
(Percentages of total)

From:	(A) NATIONALITIES	
	MAGYARS	GERMANS
German Magyaria.....	57	34
Magyaria.....	88	..
(B) DESTINATIONS		
From:	To: Germany	America
German Magyaria.....	6	91
Magyaria.....	..	90

gain of 170,000 people during the same period, so that the eastern area increased its population at three times the speed of the western area.

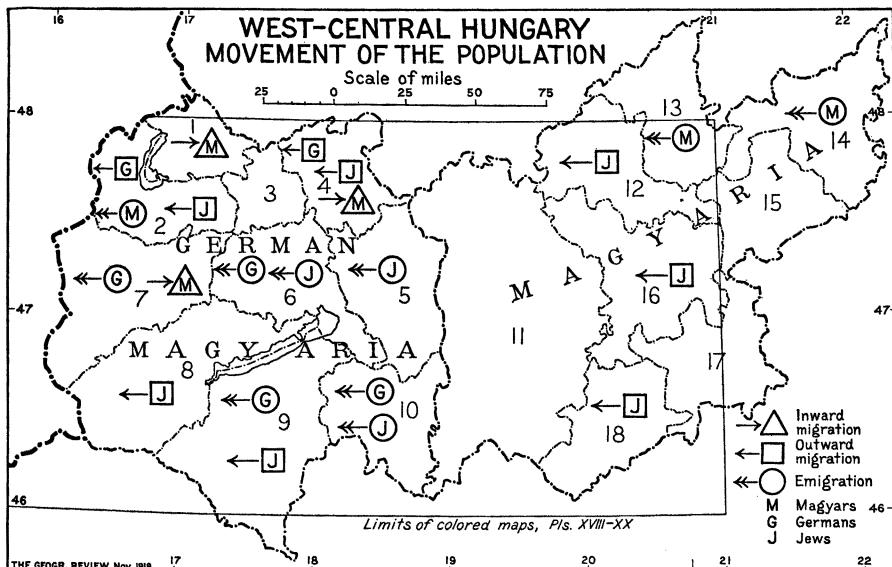


FIG. 2—Cartogram of west-central Hungary showing the movement of the population. Scale, 1:4,250,000.

For the names of the counties indicated by hair-line numerals see the key below. The counties are grouped to form two large divisions for the purposes of this article, German Magyaria and Magyaria. The statistics in the tables and elsewhere in the text relating to these two divisions are based on the constituent counties as here shown.

*Key to Counties:* 1, Moson; 2, Sopron; 3, Györ; 4, Komárom; 5, Fejér; 6, Veszprém; 7, Vas; 8, Zala; 9, Somogy; 10, Tolna; 11, Pest-Pilis-Solt-Kis-Kun; 12, Heves; 13, Borsod; 14, Szabolcs; 15, Hadju; 16, Jász-Nagi-Kun Szolnok; 17, Békés; 18, Csongrád.

Figure 2 indicates the main features of the movements of the people. There was a definite inflow of Magyars into the counties which lie near to the boundary of Slovakia and a loss by internal migration of the Jews in the southwestern counties as well as in the counties in the far east. Where

there was no excessive emigration of Germans there was still a loss by an outward migration. From the counties bordering Ruthenian Slovakia there was an emigration of Magyars; this is an indication that the unsettled conditions which prevail in Ruthenian Slovakia obtrude themselves into Magyaria; for the Magyar population is increasing despite the outflow, and the Magyars are pressing northwards, as has previously been noted. Magyars are, therefore, tending to move in four directions: towards the capital, northwestwards along the lowlands of the Danube, northwards into Ruthenian Slovakia over the lowlands, and eastwards into Transylvania. A diligent search through the censuses, village by village, fails to show many cases of what might appear to be "juggling with the figures," and some of these cases indicate results which tend to reduce the proportion of Magyars. They must be considered to demonstrate little more than the unsettled nature of the communities where they occur; a fair proportion of such cases are to be found among the villages of Ruthenian Slovakia and the neighboring parts of Magyaria.

#### RELIGIONS

More than three-fifths of the people in central Hungary are Roman Catholics; the proportion is highest in the west, adjacent to Roman Catholic Hungary and Croatia. Among the Protestants, the Calvinists are Magyars

TABLE V—RELIGIOUS ADHERENCE  
(Percentage of total for each nationality)

NATIONALITY	ROMAN CATHOLIC	CALVINIST	LUTHERAN	JEWISH	UNIATE	OTHERS
<i>German Magyaria</i>						
Germans .....	80	15	19	..	..	1
<i>Magyaria</i>						
Magyars .....	56	31	3	4	5	1

and the Lutherans are usually Germans. A few of the Magyars are Uniates or Jews. The Calvinist Magyars are most numerous in the neighborhood of Debreczen, which has been called the Calvinist Rome.

#### ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

In central Hungary nineteen schools out of twenty are Magyar; the German schools in the western area are 3 per cent in number although

TABLE VI—ELEMENTARY EDUCATION, 1910

	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN BETWEEN 6 AND 14 NOT ON THE SCHOOL REGIS-TTERS	PERCENTAGE OF THE UNREGIS-TERED WHO ARE OFFICIALLY EXCUSED FROM SCHOOL ATTENDANCE	PERCENTAGE OF THE SCHOOLS			
			(i) WHICH ARE:		(ii) WHERE THE LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION IS:	
			STATE OR COMMUNAL	CHURCH	MAGYAR	NON-MAGYAR
German Magyaria....	4	26	14	85	96	4*
Magyaria.....	12	21	35	62	99	1

\* 3 per cent German.

17 per cent of the people are Germans. The Magyar bureaucracy, which its settled policy of Magyarizing the children, here oppresses the Germans. Despite this fact German Magyaria has the best school attendance in Hungary, better even than exists in Slovakia. The proportion of state or communal schools, 14 per cent, is the lowest in the kingdom.

### PUBLIC HEALTH

Medical treatment before death is received by the Magyars and Germans more frequently in these areas than in any other part of Hungary, and the Germans are worse treated by the medical service than the Magyars. The rates of death from tuberculosis do not differ materially from those

TABLE VII—PUBLIC HEALTH, 1901-1910

NATIONALITY	PERCENTAGE OF DEATHS		CAUSES OF DEATH (PERCENTAGE)				NOT CLASSIFIED
	NOT TREATED	NOT CERTIFIED	TUBERCULOUS DISEASES	PNEUMONIA OR PLEURISY	CONGENITAL DEBILITY	SENILE DEBILITY	
	<i>German Magyaria</i>						
Germans.....	50	48	13	11	16	17	19
Magyars.....	42	38	16	9	14	15	23
<i>Magyaria</i>							
Magyars.....	32	25	15	8	14	11	28

in neighboring districts; the higher birth rate is accompanied by a high death rate from congenital debility, and the greater frequency with which medical certificates of death are given is the cause of a larger proportion of deaths from diseases outside the main official classification of causes of mortality.

Table VIII indicates a great disproportion between German Magyaria and Magyaria in the public health service, since the western area is worse

TABLE VIII—PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE, 1910

DIVISION	NUMBER OF PEOPLE PER:			NUMBER OF FEMALES PER MIDWIFE
	PHYSICIAN	PHARMACY	HOSPITAL BED	
German Magyaria.....	4,800	8,400	700	780
Magyaria.....	1,900	7,600	270	540
Hungary proper.....	3,500	8,600	490	700

served than the average for Hungary proper, while the service in Magyaria is almost twice as good as the general average. Here again is evidence of the policy of the Magyar bureaucracy to the detriment of the non-Magyars peoples.

### ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

The Magyars and the Germans are the most lettered people in Hungary; the proportion of the adults of working age is relatively high (Table IX).

TABLE IX—ECONOMIC CONDITIONS  
*Rural Communities*

NATIONALITY	NUM- BER OF WOMEN PER 1,000 MEN	AGE GROUPS (PERCENTAGE)				PERCENTAGE OF POPULA- TION OVER 6 YEARS OF AGE ILLITERATE	HOUSES (PERCENTAGE)			PEOPLE PER HOUSE
		1-6	6-14	15-60	OVER 60		STONE OR BRICK	TIMBER	WITH THATCHED ROOFS	
<i>German Magyaria</i>										
Germans .....	1,017	16	20	54	10	23	4	1	37	6.0
Magyars .....	990	16	21	54	9	17	25	..	61	6.2
<i>Magyaria</i>										
Magyars .....	1,015	17	22	53	8	25	10	3	57	5.4

The houses of central Hungary are as a rule thatched and built of dried clay, but the greater wealth of the Magyars is indicated by the high proportion of stone or brick houses; in general, each house in German Magyaria holds six people, which is the mean maximum for the rural communities and is about 30 per cent higher than the average for Transylvania, where the minimum number of occupants per house is to be found.

#### RAILWAY TRANSPORTATION

Magyaria is worse served by railways than the western area, for two reasons: first, on the east, Magyaria has large tracts of country situated

TABLE X—RAILWAYS

DIVISION	MILEAGE	
	PER 100,000 INHABITANTS	PER 100 SQUARE MILES
German Magyaria .....	80	12
Magyaria .....	50	13

some distance from the main lines of communication and, secondly, German Magyaria, like South-Slav Hungary, is crossed by the great railway routes Paris-Vienna-Budapest-Constantinople and Budapest-Fiume.

#### General Conclusions

On the whole it may be concluded that the Magyars have made great efforts to attain the ideal of the official mind, a uniform "nation" within the Hungarian political boundary. In Magyaria, the stronghold of the Magyars, the population is increasing with great rapidity; in the west the bureaucracy oppresses the non-Magyars, in this instance the Germans, and thus gives a large impetus to the emigration movement.

#### THE MENTALITY OF THE MAGYAR BUREAUCRACY

The Magyar bureaucrat appears to be unable to achieve any measure of sympathy with any non-Magyar people, and, in recent years, he has made a naïve attempt to impose upon English public opinion. Because of his

unique language his thoughts are largely hidden even from the educated classes of Western Europe, so that he has published in English descriptions of his country and his policy which betray his lack of understanding of the non-Magyar mind. The following extracts from one of the publications<sup>1</sup> will illustrate this point.

The continuous compact body of the Magyars was pressed towards the center of the country from the north by the Slovaks, from the southwest and south by the Croats and Serbs, from the southeast by the Rumanians, who indeed broke through the body of the Hungarians, separating the mass on the Great Plain from the Székels, the two, however, being connected together by an unbroken chain of isolated Hungarian settlements. Here the Magyar vindication progresses slowly and with difficulty, for the most part starting from the towns. The Slovaks that settle on the Great Plain are easily absorbed by the Magyars, who in their turn begin to reoccupy the southern districts from the Great Plain; in this they are supported by the Germans; while the recolonization of Slavonia encounters many difficulties. . . .

The Hungarians conquered the land with the armed hand, and to this land they have now the right of a thousand years of uninterrupted possession. The different nationalities that live together with them within the circle of the united nation have come into the country in various ways and with divers titles . . . . The Germans have deserved well of the country by founding towns, introducing manufactures, organizing society, and, generally speaking, diffusing Western culture. They are characterized by many good qualities: industry, perseverance, order, moderation, sobriety, decent dwellings and clothing and food, education, a spirit of progress, a sense of duty, respect for the law, and attachment to the Magyar cause. *Vis-à-vis* the separatist element in the north, east, and south, the strengthening of the patriotic German is an important national interest. The Hungarians in the so-called Hungary proper are, as it were, surrounded by the several Slav races with a circular chain, open at the east, where the northern and southern ends are connected by the Rumanians. All these are, for the most part, later comers, for the Moravian and Slovene elements, which the Magyars found here when they occupied the country, seem to have been early absorbed . . . . [The Slovaks] for the most part are patriotic, but Pan-Slavist agitators in gentlemen's clothes have in some places succeeded in deluding the simple folk . . . . [The Ruthenians] are very poor and in the least degree educated, but well disposed. This good, but very much neglected race deserves more care and a better lot . . . . [The Rumanian] common people progress but slowly in civilization, yet they have fine abilities and good qualities. The great confidence they repose in the priests and leading men is often abused by selfish agitators. If the Rumanian people were once to recognize that their existence depends on their holding with the Hungarian nation, they would be of very great assistance in our eastern mission of culture. . . .

The Hebrew-German jargon spoken by a portion of the Jews cannot be regarded as a separate mother tongue: from long ago the Jews are not a nationality but a religious sect . . . . As traders the Jews are of great economical importance; their business is not considered to be unconditionally sound. The civil marriage will break down the exclusiveness of the Jews, will wear away the racial peculiarities, and will bring back many estates into the possession of the state-forming element. Charles Velti thus expresses himself with regard to the reconciliation of these two opposing interests: "By the mixture of the Magyar and the Jew our country will gain a race which, the more it multiplies, the more firmly we shall be assured as to the permanence of the country. If intelligence and force, capacity for labor, and activity are united, those elements are mixed together for producing an honest, rich, and powerful nation to dwell in this land."

<sup>1</sup> "The Millennium of Hungary and Its People," Budapest, 1897.

# WEST-CENTRAL HUNGARY

Scale 1:2 000 000  
0 10 20 30 40 50 miles

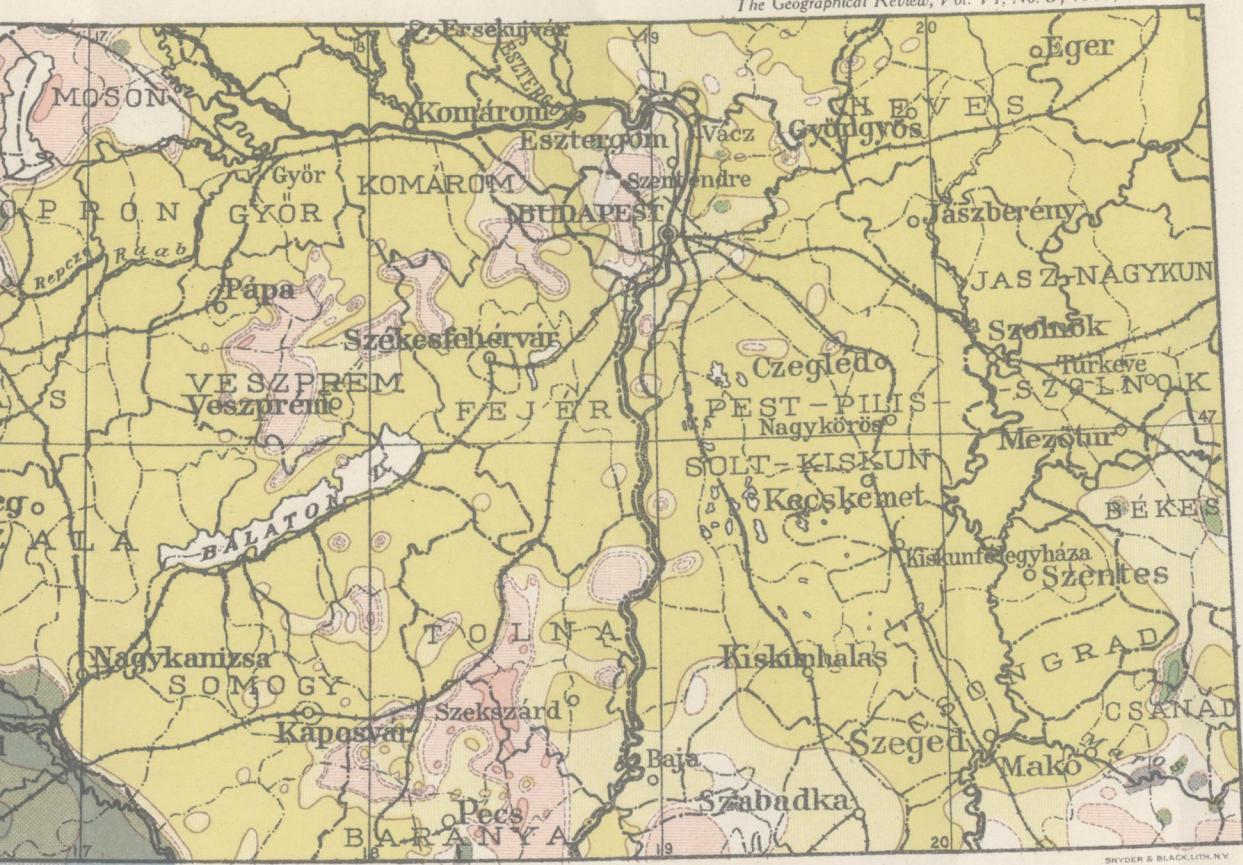
Geographical Data  
Compiled by B. C. Wallis

Boundaries  
— National  
— County  
— District and  
Municipality

## NATIONALITIES

Magyars	50 - 95%
	over 95%
Germans	50 - 95%
	over 95%
Slovaks	50 - 95%
	over 95%
Rumanians	50 - 95%
Slovenes	50 - 95%
Croats	50 - 95%
	over 95%
Serbs	50 - 95%





# WEST-CENTRAL HUNGARY

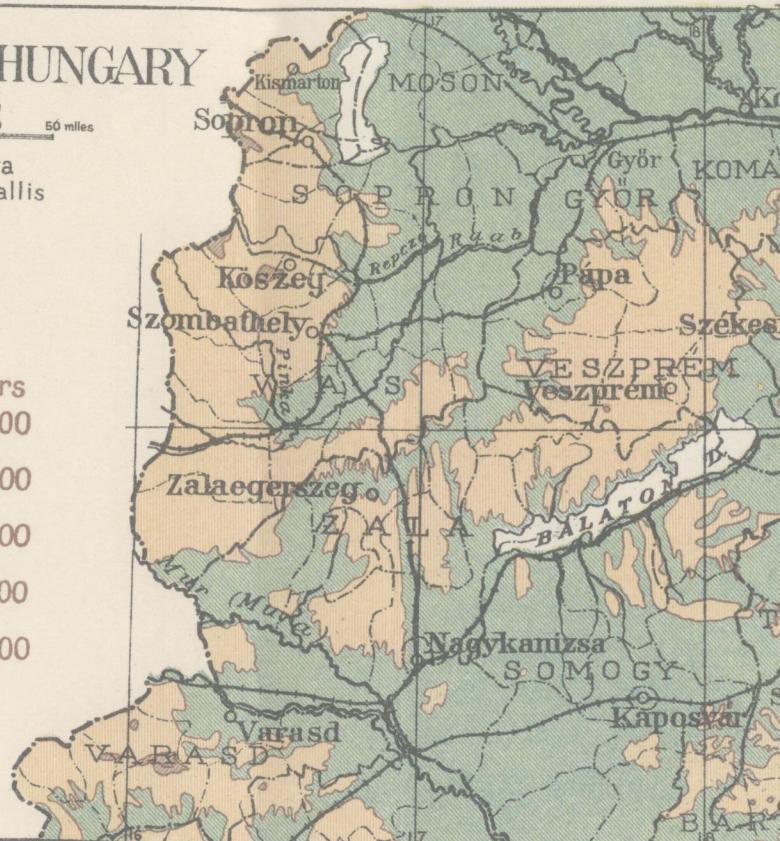
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Geographical Data  
Compiled by B. C. Wallis

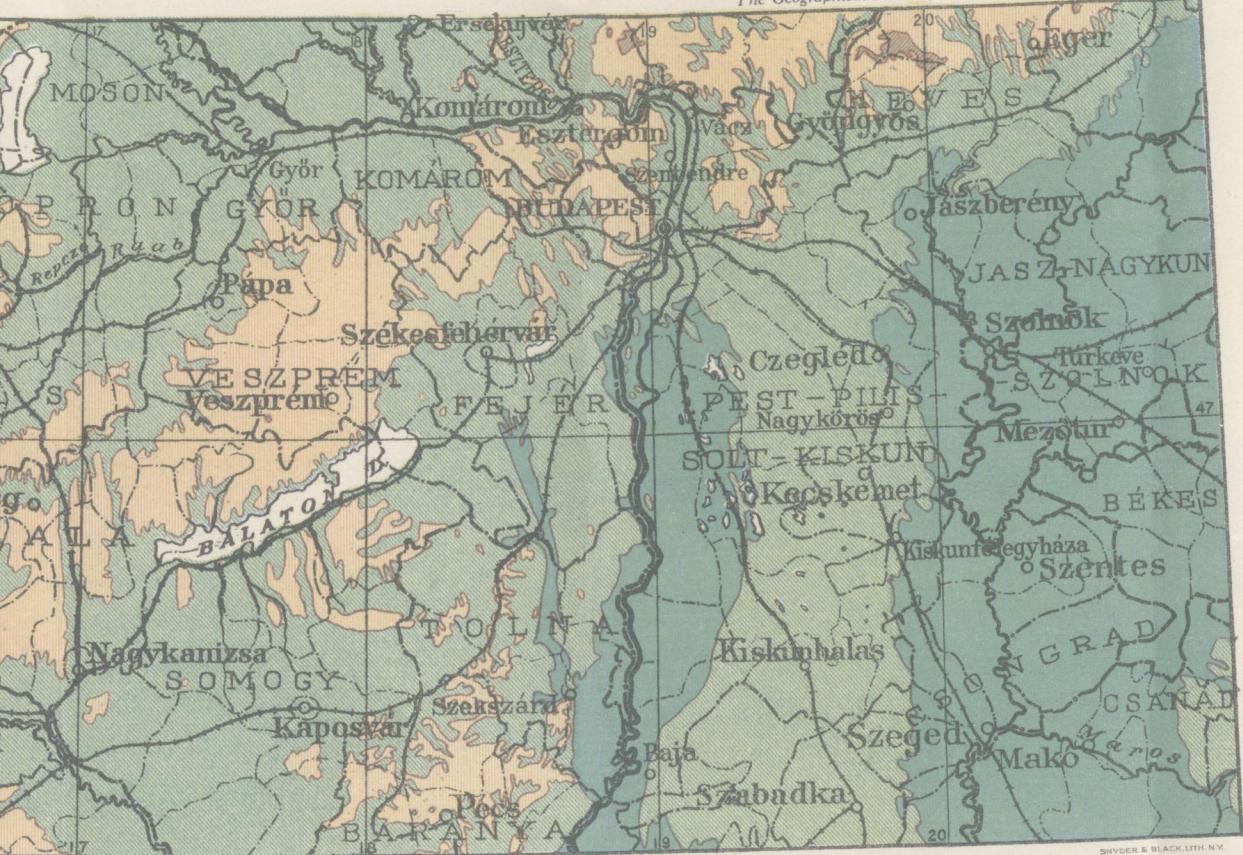
- Boundaries  
— National  
— County  
— District and  
Municipality

## RELIEF

feet	meters
0 - 330	0-100
330 - 660	100-200
660-2000	200-600
2000-3300	600-1000
over 3300	over 1000



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# WEST-CENTRAL HUNGARY

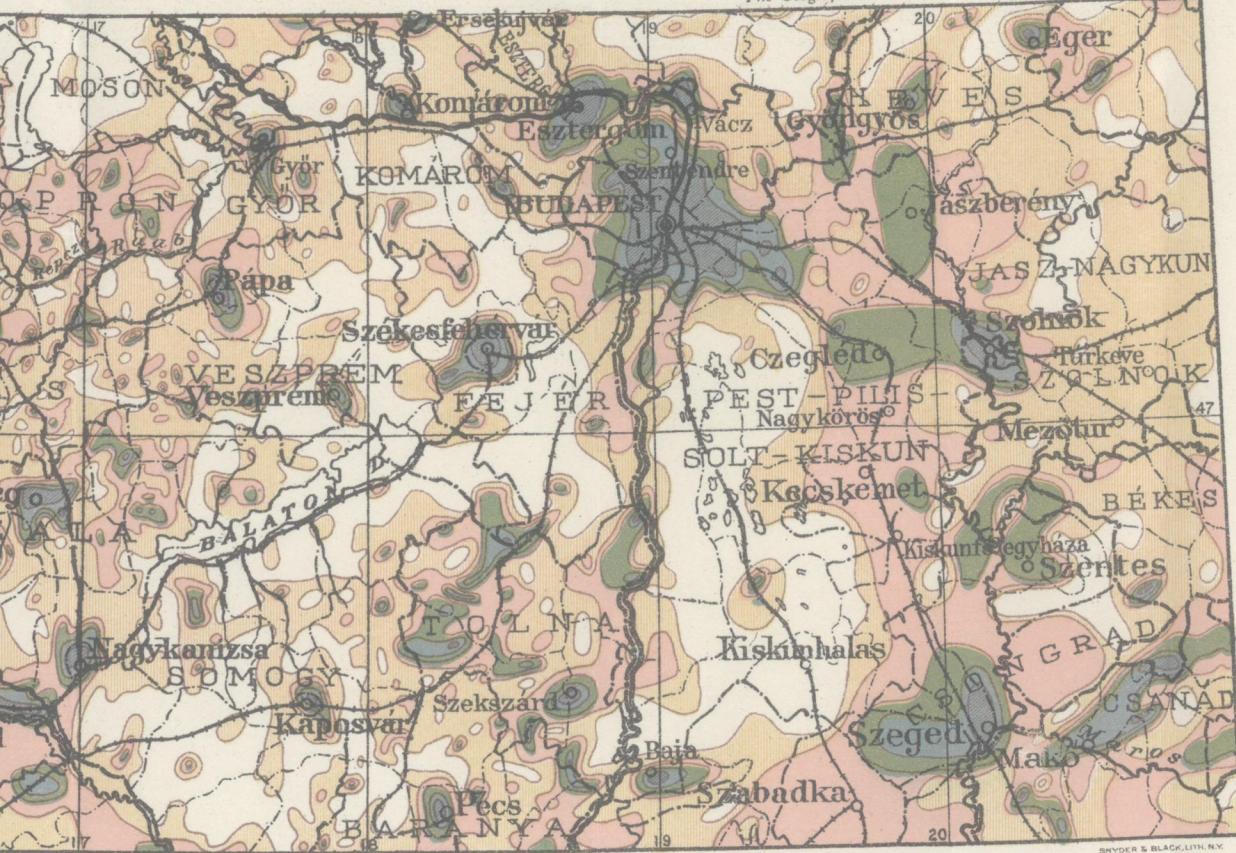
Scale 1:2 000 000  
0 10 20 30 40 50 miles

Geographical Data  
Compiled by B. C. Wallis  
Boundaries  
— National  
— County  
- - District and  
Municipality

## POPULATION DENSITY

per sq.mile	per sq.km
0-128	0-50
128-192	50-75
192-256	75-100
256-320	100-125
320-384	125-150
over 384	over 150





These paragraphs, published about half way through the period under review, present a picture of the state of affairs in Hungary which has been euphemistically described as "misleading."

#### HUNGARIAN LIBERTY VS. BRITISH

One of the curious claims made by the Magyar official is to the effect that the constitution of Hungary is, after that of the United Kingdom, the best example of a constitutional monarchy in the world; it is claimed that the Hungarian is as free as the Briton, that in Hungary liberty rules. Unfortunately the Hungarian constitution differs from that of Britain; it is written, while the British constitution is unwritten; and, being written, it is as inoperative as one of the historic "scraps of paper." It is sometimes urged that the treatment of the "subject races" by the Magyars is paralleled by the case of the Irish in Britain. Two facts will demonstrate the falsity of this view. In the British Parliament the Irish are over-represented in proportion to population; their votes may be cast upon all questions, while the votes of the deputies from Croatia-Slavonia are limited to local affairs. In the Hungarian Parliament the best representation in recent years which the Rumanians have had has been 11 members out of over 400; and no other "subject race" has ever had so many. The second fact has a direct bearing upon the war; the "subject races" are conscripted for the army; they have since the outbreak of war been officially murdered by hundreds in the Slav areas; no Irish have yet been conscripted in Britain. Irish, Welsh, and Scots achieve great things for their respective countries by constitutional agitation in the British Parliament; neither Rumanians nor Slovaks are allowed to agitate constitutionally in Hungary.

#### THE MAGYAR ANOMALY

The Magyar race is an example of a curious geographical development; it has seen changes in the character of a people to suit the human environment by which they are surrounded, and its history is a record of failure where the original characteristics of the race have not been modified. Originally steppe horsemen, this people has settled to the tenure of land and agriculture. The ownership of land is a Magyar passion. Estates are large; and, although crops are cultivated, the traditional devotion to horses and horse-breeding still occupies much attention. Arrogant, as befits one of a race of alien conquerors, the poorest Magyar, even though he be a landless man, holds himself as the superior, though he be in rags, of the non-Magyar farmer whose peasant industry has enabled him to amass a considerable fortune.

The Magyar owes much to his situation within the ring of the Carpathians on the pusztas—the westward extension of the great Eurasian steppe—but he owes more to the fact that his language is unique in type among the languages of Europe; both circumstances have tended toward

the consolidation of many nomad tribes into one settled nation. On the one hand these mountains and this speech have screened him from the influence of outsiders; on the other hand they have tended to force him into an isolated outlook upon Western civilization and have prevented Western influences from penetrating into the land: the continuous fighting with the Turks in the early days of Magyar history has further forced the attention of the Magyars eastwards and away from the west. Consequently, the Magyar has failed to reach the standards of government which prevail in Western Europe, his methods involve positive oppression against all active non-Magyar influences, and negative indifference and neglect wherever the non-Magyars are least numerous and least active.

Because his home is within the great border zone wherein Western and Eastern civilizations have most frequently clashed, his neighbors belong to many races; and he holds sway within his Carpathian fence because his numbers exceed those of any other single race in Hungary and because he has been able to keep the subject races settled in separated groups upon the surrounding hills; he has had throughout his history the strategical advantage of the interior lines and the possession of the heart of the land.

#### THE CASE OF THE SUBJECT RACES IN HUNGARY

In these articles an attempt has been made to lay bare the skeleton of the Hungarian Kingdom; they have been designedly confined to hard material facts, and the geographer must clothe the bones with the palpitating flesh of modern life. Nominally the serfs were emancipated in 1848, but in reality Hungary still retains many of the elements of social life which are characteristic of the Middle Ages. The Magyar boasts of the liberal character of his constitution, yet in truth there is little liberty for anyone but a Magyar. The subject races have neither freedom of the press nor the right of association; they lack even freedom of speech in official matters and in the courts. The achievement of personal ambition is barred to all who are unwilling to drown their nationality and submerge the inheritance they have received from their ancestors under the waters of Magyar autocracy.

The emergence of Western Europe from feudalism depended largely upon the development of the modern systems of land tenure; the Magyar has not delivered even his own people from the tyranny associated with the feudalistic holding of large estates in a single hand, so that many Magyars emigrate to escape the harshness of the agrarian situation. Necessarily this economic difficulty presses with greater severity upon the subject peoples.

It might be argued that the subject races are not fitted by their training and education to develop into political states fit to occupy a place in a regenerated Europe. To this there can be but one reply: the future state can hardly be worse than their present condition, in which they are at the

mercy of a bureaucratic party which causes them to be slaughtered to preserve a specious tenure of territory and a false ideal of liberty. Whatever may be said of the past and present of the non-Magyars, they have never yet had the opportunity for the development of a free national life and a guaranteed political unity; they have suffered, and still suffer, through the shortcomings of the Magyar ruling caste; for behind the whole Magyar question is hidden the Jewish question. The Magyar has failed to develop with the progress of the modern world; finance and commerce have displaced the possession of land as the chief factor in economic development, and the Magyar has failed as a financier and man of commerce, so that the whole kingdom suffers directly or indirectly from the dominance of the Jew. Hotel-keeper, money-lender, mortgagee of landed estates, employer of labor in the towns, a German or a Magyar to suit the niceties of his local situation, the Jew holds Hungary in thrall.

Victims both of the defects and the better qualities of the Magyars, the Rumanians and the Slavs have lacked opportunity and have been denied liberty to a degree which it is difficult for a Briton or an American to appreciate. The fundamental issue is plain. Shall they be guaranteed an opportunity; shall they have a chance of liberty?

#### THE EFFECTS OF THE WAR

The following facts are taken from the Presidential Address by Sir Bernard Mallet delivered to the Royal Statistical Society, London, in November, 1917.

Before the war there were over 200,000 marriages a year in Hungary; they have declined to less than 70,000 a year; "taking an average of marriages in Hungary, the effect of the war has been that over 600,000 people who in the ordinary course would have married have not done so." The number of births per annum is less than half the normal number, so that Hungary has lost in births a million and a half people, approximately 7 per cent of the mean population. This loss in potential lives is seven times as great as the loss from the same causes in the United Kingdom. Excluding the deaths of members of the fighting forces the excess of deaths over births in Hungary was over 50,000 in 1915, 90,000 in 1916, and 50,000 in the first half of 1917; and it has been estimated that by the end of 1916 there had been 700,000 deaths among the Hungarian fighting forces.

It is obvious, even under the vain supposition that the decimation of the populace has been evenly spread over Magyars and non-Magyars alike, that the war has made tremendous differences in the distribution of the people of Hungary and that any post-war settlement based upon the wishes and votes of the nationalities concerned will necessitate an elaborate census of the existing situation. The maps and tables provided in these articles may, however, serve as a useful guide to the probable results and as a standard of comparison to test the accuracy of the new determination.